

St Mary's Church Pre-school



The Chapter House, St Mary's Church, Church Road, Yatton, Bristol, BS49 4HH

Inspection date	9 September 2016
Previous inspection date	11 October 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children make good progress, relative to their starting points. Good systems of observation and assessment help staff in planning for children's next steps in learning. Managers monitor the effectiveness of the learning programme well to identify gaps.
- Children are happy and confident with good self-esteem. They develop warm and affectionate relationships with staff, and show through their behaviour that they feel emotionally secure.
- Staff have good relationships with parents and involve them well in their children's learning. They use information from parents about their children's interests and abilities to plan activities that quickly engage children when they first attend the setting.
- The management and staff are highly committed to ongoing improvements that support good-quality outcomes for children. Managers support staff well and encourage their professional development, to further help improve children's learning experiences. Overall, staff work effectively with other professionals to provide a shared approach to planning for children's future learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The opportunities and resources that staff provide to help children to learn about different types of technology provide limited challenge for older children.
- Staff do not always identify opportunities, such as those that arise unplanned during activities, to further extend children's understanding of number.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To further improve the quality of the early years provision the provider should:

- develop further the range of opportunities that teach children about technology, to provide greater challenge for older children
- make more effective use of opportunities to extend children's knowledge of number during activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff and children engaged in learning activities, indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation of a planned activity with a member of staff and discussed children's learning and development.
- The inspector spoke to members of the committee, managers, staff, parents and children.
- The inspector reviewed the effectiveness of assessments of children's learning, and how staff plan to support individual progress.
- The inspector sampled required documents and records, including safeguarding procedures, and assessed staff's understanding of how to implement these.

Inspector

Julie Neal

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Management successfully encourages a strong culture of reflective practice among the staff. Staff observe each other's practice, and share skills and knowledge gained through training. Good self-evaluation helps to identify action plans for improvement, which are monitored well. The manager delegates specific roles to staff and helps to ensure that they are confident in taking on responsibility, such as by training them. Safeguarding is effective. All staff, and some committee members, keep their knowledge of safeguarding up to date, such as through training. They are confident in their knowledge of the correct procedures to follow to help protect children from potential harm.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff use their good knowledge of the children to plan activities that interest and engage them well. They communicate very well with children, and use their questions and teaching skills effectively to encourage them to think and build on what they know. For example, when children were doing puzzles of different faces, staff encouraged them to use mirrors to look at their own features and relate these to the puzzle pieces. Staff extended this activity well by encouraging the children to discuss the facial expressions, such as what the person may be feeling, and to make their own 'happy' or 'grumpy' face in the mirror. Staff make good use of the available space to help children, such as those who prefer to learn through outdoor activities, to extend their learning further. For example, children made good use of role play resources, and writing and mark making materials, when outdoors. Staff plan good daily activities that encourage children to be active. Children eagerly join in energetic music and movement sessions.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are well behaved and enjoy being helpful. For example, they take turns to help prepare the fruit for their snack, and show that they know how to act safely as they use sharp knives. Children show good understanding of good health and hygiene practices. For example, before helping to wash paint pots they check they are using the right cloth, and not the one used to wash dishes as this might 'spread germs'. Children learn about their community well, such as from regular outings to the library, school and church.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop the skills they need to be ready for the next stage in their learning, including going to school. They are independent and confident, and develop good problem-solving skills. For example, when children saw that they had identical shoes, they discussed how they could tell the difference, such as by writing their names in them. Short and focused small group activities help children to build on their skills for future learning, such as listening and paying attention.

Setting details

Unique reference number	509168
Local authority	North Somerset
Inspection number	1058776
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	26
Name of registered person	St Mary's Church Pre-School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP911132
Date of previous inspection	11 October 2012
Telephone number	01934 832184 or 01934 838229

St Mary's Church Pre-school registered in 1992 and is run by a voluntary management committee. It operates from the Chapter House, adjacent to the church, in Yatton, North Somerset. The pre-school opens Monday to Friday, from 9am to midday, term time only. An optional lunch club session runs from midday to 12.45pm on Monday and Thursday. The pre-school receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged three and four years. Seven staff are employed to work directly with children. Of these, five have a relevant level 3 early years qualification and one has a relevant level 2 qualification.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our website for news, information and updates at www.ofsted.gov.uk/user.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2016

